"WE."

Whan I was young, some years ago-How many -well, I do not know-I formed a feeling very intense For a lady young, and rich, and fair, Who bore a pleasing business air, And filled an editorial chair On the 'Journal of Common Sense.'

I wooed her long and tenderly, And asked myself, "Does she love me?" I thought she did. I was elate With hope, for when she spoke to me, She always used the plural "we," As though we were in a holy state-Mated and married, don't you see? Ah me, how happy we would be! Did she love me? Well, I confess I thought she'd gladly answer "yes."

I plucked up courage, asked if she Would be a little wife to me; She prefaced her reply with "we"-I almost jumped and kissed her. And then she said in accents free: "Ah that, ah that can never be, But 'we' will be a sister.'' Oh, miserable me; I then did see The pronoun she had used with me Was only editorial "we."

### FREEZING TO DEATH.

-Frank Pemmon, in Yankee Blade.

It Is Pleasant, But Not So the Restoration to Life.

A Memorable Night Ride in Maine in the Cold Winter of 1840-Remarkable Sagacity Displayed By a Horse-Excruciating Torture.

"Freeze to death if you want to. You will like it. But don't let any body fetch you to again. That will almost kill you."

That was the strange remark made by Captain R. L. Zely, of Uniontown, who gravely declared that in the terribly rigorous winter 1839-'40 he was "actually frozen to death," which declaration he supplemented with the above remark.

"The first snow of that season," said the Captain, "fell the last week in October, 1839. The last snow of the season came May 16, 1840. Between these two dates there wasn't less than six feet of snow on the level all the time, and where the wind had full sweep twenty feet was no uncommon thing to see. We had eight months of uninterrupted sleighing, and the thermometer for five months was at no time higher than twenty degrees above zero, while most of the time it sported between fifteen and twenty

"This was in Maine. I had an interest in some lumber that year up in the Piscataquis country, and it was necessary in February, 1840, for me to go into that region and look after my interests. It was a long journey, but the sleighing was like glass, and I had effort to shake off the deadly spell.

That was all. If he hadn't been I wouldn't be here to-day to tell what occurred to me on that trip.

"The second day of my journey the weather was as cold as twenty below zero could make it, and was gradually getting colder. 'I knew I would reach one of those queer little villages common to the Maine backwoods early that evening. There I intended to stay all night and drive on next morning to the house of the agent of the lumber property, twelve miles further along. I reached the village and found that there was no tavern there. Accommodations were offered me as a private house, but I was informed that I could not obtain a drop of water for my horse in the entire settlement. There had been no rain since winter set in, and there wasn't a well or a there was a drop of water. The nearest water was in the Piscataquis river, nearly three miles distant, to which what stock there was in the village was driven every day to drink and my friend the agent. enough water was carried back in the villagers supplied. My horse was badly in need of water, and I couldn't think of letting him go all night without a drink. So I ate my supper at the drive on to the river if my horse was to have his much-needed drink that night, I made up my mind that I might as well keep right on to the agent's as to drive back to the village after watering my horse.

frosty localities. As we neared the river this haze became more dense, unwater, and the next second my horse was floundering about in water, which | it. also covered the sleigh and the robes and myself up to my waist. In that thick bank of icy mist the horse had plunged into the river below where I had been told to cross, and had broken throught the thin ice that had formed since the ice had been cut away that

I guess my noble beast must have once more alive. And that coming floundered at least a minute in that back over the boundary makes me hole before he knew exactly what had ache yet whenever I think of it. I happened. When the situation did didn't mind the dying. That, in fact, come to him he became quiet, threw his fore feet up, and lodged them both ing to life! If ever I freeze to death on the ice with a concerted blow like again I want it known that the man a trip-hammer. The ice was thick, who resuscitates me does so at his but beneath that blow an immense peril."-Harrisburg Cor. N. Y. Times. cake was broken off and carried down under the edge of the ice below. The horse swam onward, dragging the sleigh with it, through the rapidlyfreezing slush. Once more he pounded the ice ahead of him with his powerful fore feet, and again the ice yielded. ropean Russia has been diverted from During all this time I was shouting for the overland route and now goes to help. I might, at the first breaking Russia by steamer, either via London in of the horse, have turned and leaped or direct to Odessa. The finest tea of back to shore, but I did not collect my all, owing to a prevalent opinion that thoughts in time. It was now too late, sea carriage impairs the flavor, still and even if it had not been I was so goes overland; but though Russians stiffened by the casing of ice that I are in the habit of paying prices for couldn't have moved to save myself tea unheard of in this country, the from death. The horse kept on, and, caravans would have little to depend strange as it may seem, broke a channel for fifty feet across that river and the tea which still continues to go drew the sleigh out safely on the other overland to Russia. They rely, howside. Then he started off at the top of ever, on the carriage of the coarse his speed toward our destination. He brick tea which is consumed in Monsoon struck the road, and away we golia, Manchuria and Siberia. On my went.

"I knew that although one danger Great Wall, I met numerous large was escaped a greater was before us, armed caravans of camels, laden with and I urged the horse on. My sleigh tea, and often preceded by a picturrobes and my clothing had frozen so esque, fierce-looking Tartar horseman, solid that if I had been encased in iron | lance in hand, who glared rather fero-I could not have been more motionless. | clously at the strange foreign devil." My horse was naturally jet black, but The demand for brick tea-manuhis icy coating made him stand out factured at Hankow, three hundred even against that frozen mist like a specter horse. I could not move even Foo-Choo on the Min, whence it my hands. We were not yet half way is shipped to Tien-Tsin-is great and to the agent's house when I found my- annually increasing, the inhabitants self growing drowsy. I could no longer of Mongolia, Manchuria and Siberia use my voice. The clatter of the horse's hoofs and the creaking of the runners on the icy road sounded to me like thunder claps and weird, hidcous cries. I knew that I was freezing. but I labored hard to rouse my will lessly weighted by the enormous and fight with it against my fate. The stars looked like great coals of fire, although before they could be seen but dimly through the peculiar haze. The trees, their branches covered with snow, took on the shapes of gigantic and fantastic ghosts. Still I preserved one-third of the total annual consumpall my powers of reasoning. Finally I tion of Great Britain. It is therefore found myself growing deliciously warm. An indescribable languor, attended with pleasant visions, took possession of me. I heard sweet strains of music where before only tumult and startling cries had assailed my ears. Still, knowing what all this meant, I made one more mental

"I don't know how far I was awa from my destination when I thus froze costs from £3 to £4 per ton at Pekin, to death, but I was after a time made | will probably be reduced in price to aware that I was being called back to existence by suffering such torture as the victim of the rack might feel. Greater agony I could not feel. Suddenly at my feet the pricking of a million needles assaulted my flesh. Torturing me at that spot a moment until I writhed in agony, it dashed quickly up my legs, stopping an instant here and there, as if gloating over my misery, and then crawled with awful pain slowly upward, until it seemed that tiny jets of the flame cithara was in the shape of the letter were being blown into my body, heart P, and had ten strings. and brain. The intensity of this agony was not constant. If it had been I must have died again. It came in torturing waves. Each wave was spring anywhere in the region in which a trifle less furious than its predecessor, until at last the storm was passed and I found myself a weak, speechless, limp, and helpless mortal lying on a robe before the fireplace of

"He had brought me back to life, buckets to keep the personal wants of but, as true as I tell you, I did not feel it in my heart at the time to thank him for doing it. When I was strong enough to bear it he told me that soon after going to bed he was aroused by village house, and, finding that I must the peculiar and loud neighing of a horse. He got up and looked out of the window. He saw a sight that startled him-a ghostly horse with a ghostly sleigh and a ghostly driverin the road before his door. As soon as he could recover himself he hurried "It was a starlight night, but the air out. Discovering that the horse's was filled with that peculiar frozen driver was dead, he carried him to the mist frequently noticeable in high, house and laid him on the floor and Mrs. Hamilton and the fine ladies of then recognized me in the driver. our revolutionary times played upon. Knowing that if he could resuscitate til finally it was with difficulty that I me nothing could be done toward it could see any thing ahead of me. It was almost like passing through a thawed away, he made the fire blaze which caused the hammers to strike storm of scaly ice. Suddenly—I was and harmed to the rescue of the the wires from above. The thus development that the rescue of the storm of scale ice. thinking that we must be almost on the margin of the river—there came a crackling sound, a loud splash of house he wine, to on that terrible musical instrum night, and that my life depended on

"By the time the horse was cared for I was in shape to be brought back to life, if it could be done. I was stripped and rubbed briskly with snowwater for over an hour before I gave any evidence that I might be called back. Then another hour was spent evening to give the cattle from in the same treatment when a spoonthe village a place to drink. The water ful of brandy was poured down my hospital, of which she had charge. splashed about by the horse soon throat. After that circulation of my Her wedding gown was the costume of drenched the rest of me, and in less blood began, and so did the agony I her profession, and the bridemaids time than I can tell it I was coated described. That suffering continued were nineteen nurses, all in uniform.

with a rapidly thickening armor of ice. | for an hour and then I was pronounced was rather a pleasure. But the com-

### CHINESE BRICK TEA.

An Article That Is Both Food and Drink to Mongolians and Siberlans.

It is well known that most of the tea intended for consumption in Euon now if they trusted for support to way back to Pekin from visiting the miles up the Yang-Tse-Kiang, and using it both as food and drink, while sometimes it even takes the place of currency, the value of articles being calculated in bricks of tea. In spite of the fact that this trade is so hopecharges for overland carriage, the demand is so great that more than 60,-000,000 pounds, principally brick, were conveyed overland in 1887 to Mongolia, Siberia and Russia, via Kalgan-that is to say, an amount equal to about not difficult to imagine the sudden development which will take place in this trade alone, when a not inconsiderable proportion of the heavy overland charges are knocked off by the advent of a railway. And tea is only one of the many specific articles of commerce for which this railway will greate an intensified damand, Coal, sixty miles of the capital, and now

# THE MODERN PIANO.

Magazine.

considerably under £1.—Blackwood's

A Condensed History of the Evolution of the Popular Instrument.

The plane, as we see it to-day, is the growth of centuries of invention. In its infancy it was a harp with two or three strings. From time to time more strings were added, and after a while the cithara was born. The

It took many centuries for musicians to get the idea of stretching the strings across an open box, but somewhere about the year 1200 this was thought of, and the dulcimer made its appearance, the strings being struck with hammers.

For another hundred years these hammers were held in the hand of the player, and then a genius invented a keyboard, which, being struck by the fingers, moved the hammers.

This instrument was called a clavi-cytherium, or keyed crthara. This underwent some modifications and improvements from time to time. In Queen Elizabeth's time it was called a virginal. Then it was called a spine, because the hammers were covered with spines or quills, which struck or caught the strings of wires and produced the sound. From 1700 to 1800 it was much enlarged and improved, and called a harpsichord, and this was the instrument that Lady Washington.

In 1710, Bartolomeo, Cristofoli, an Italian, invented a keyboard,

In the past 150 years there is no musical instrument which has so completely absorbed the inventive faculty of man as the piano. The reason is obvious; it is the household instrument par excellence. - Toledo Blade.

-Miss A. A. Crisp, a famous professional nurse, who had received the decoration of the royal red cross from Queen Victoria, recently married one of the physicians of the New Zealand



AFTERNOON TEA.

Said Mrs. G. to Mrs. D. ('Twas o'er a cup of fine Bohea): "Our pretty hostess yonder, Has gained in looks surprisingly; She seems as well as well can be! What is the cause, I wonder?"

Said Mrs. D. to Mrs. G. She's changed indeed, but then, you see, She put aside objection. And tried that famous remedy, Which did so much for you and me-Pierce's Favorite Prescription."

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